

293/008 Cont. 41

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thomas J. Bachinski et al.
Application No. : 09/406,575 Confirmation No. : 1763
Filed : September 24, 1999
For : MEDICAL GRAFTING CONNECTORS AND FASTENERS
Examiner : Paul B. Prebilic
Group Art Unit : 3738

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

New York, New York 10020
July 21, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR
SEVENTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement in the above-identified patent application, copies of the documents cited therein and Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate). This Statement is being submitted more than three months from the application filing date and after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c) (2), applicants have enclosed a check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee for submission of an Information

Disclosure Statement. The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this letter is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



Stuart W. Yothers
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July 21, 2004
Claire J. Saintilvan Goodman

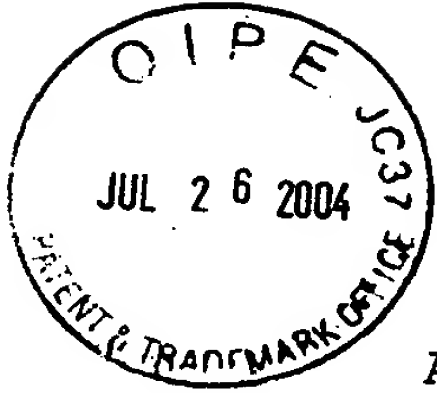

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SEVENTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97,
applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the
following documents:

U.S. Patent Documents

Tovey et al.	5,478,354	26/12/1995
Gordon	5,575,800	11/19/1996
Riza	5,817,111	10/06/1998

Foreign Patent Documents

EP 0774237	EPO	05/21/1997
WO 97/07741	PCT	03/06/1997
WO 98/16161	PCT	04/23/1998

These documents are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate), and copies are enclosed herewith.

The documents listed in this Statement were first cited by a foreign patent office in an application of another from which claims were recently copied into this application (see the "Supplemental Amendment and Notification Pursuant To 37 C.F.R. § 1.604(b) Identifying Published Patent Applications From Which Claims Have Been Copied," filed February 26, 2002 and the "Second Supplemental Amendment and Notification Pursuant To 37 C.F.R. § 1.604(b) Identifying a Published Patent Application From Which Claims Have Been Copied," filed April 9, 2003.) The following identifies each application from which claims have been copied into this application. For each application from which claims have been copied, the following further identifies the references in the International Search Report (if published and therefore available to the under-signed agent) that are associated with the claims that have been copied. Copies of the available International Search Reports are also enclosed herewith.

WO 01/70091

Applicants submitted this search report and the references cited therein with the Second Supplemental IDS filed 7/2/02.

WO 01/41623

Applicants submitted this search report and the references cited therein with the Second Supplemental IDS filed 7/2/02.

WO 01/70118

Applicants submitted this search report and the references cited therein with the Supplemental IDS filed 3/19/02. Applicants disclosed references cited in an IPER

issued on this case in the Fourth Supplemental IDS filed 1/28/03.

WO 99/62415

Applicants submitted this search report and the references cited therein with the Supplemental IDS filed 3/19/02. Applicants disclosed references cited in an IPER issued on this case in the Second Supplemental IDS filed 7/2/02.

WO 99/62408 - EP 1085837

Tovey et al.	5,478,354
EPO	EP 0774237
PCT	WO 97/07741
PCT	WO 98/16161

The above listed references were cited in the European Search Report for EP 1085837. Applicants submitted the international search report for WO 99/62408 and the references cited therein with the Supplemental IDS filed 3/19/02.

WO 00/56226

Applicants submitted this search report and the references cited therein with the Supplemental IDS filed 3/19/02.

WO 00/56223

Applicants submitted this search report and the references cited therein with the Supplemental IDS filed 3/19/02.

WO 02/30172

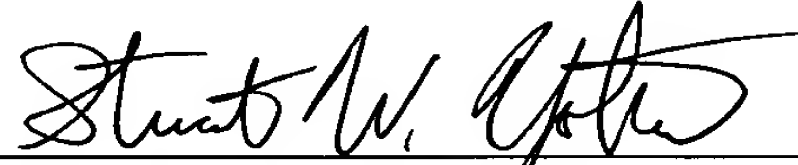
Applicants submitted this search report and the references cited therein with the Sixth Supplemental IDS filed 10/16/03.

WO 03/26475

Gordon	5,575,800
Riza	5,817,111

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this
patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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July 24, 2004

Claire J. Sullivan van Goldman



Signature of Person Signing

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DOCKET NO.

293/008 Cont.

APPLICATION NO.

09/406,575

APPLICANTS

Thomas J. Bachinski et al.

CONFIRMATION NO.

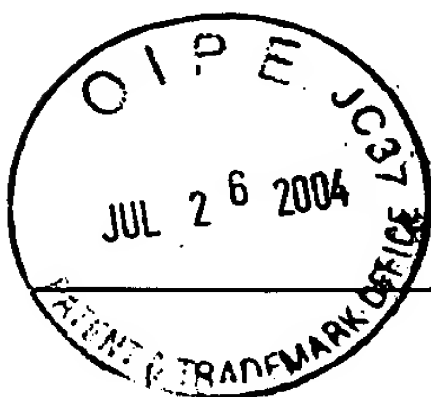
1763

FILING DATE

September 24, 1999

GROUP ART UNIT

3738

SEVENTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,478,354	12/26/1995	Tovey et al.	606	219	
	5,575,800	11/19/1996	Gordon	606	144	
	5,817,111	10/06/1998	Riza	606	148	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	EP 0774237	05/21/1997	EPO	A61B	17/00		
	WO 97/07741	03/06/1997	PCT	A61B	17/00		
	WO 98/16161	04/23/1998	PCT	A61B	17/36		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER INITIAL	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicants.